## Insurance and Real Estate Committee February 27, 2020

## Testimony in Support of:

H.B. No. 5248, H.B. No. 5254, An Act Establishing A Task Force To Study Health Insurance Coverage for Peer Support Services In This State.

H.B. No. 5254, An Act Requiring Health Insurance Coverage For Medication-Assisted Treatment For Opioid Use Disorder

H.B. No. 5256 An Act Concerning Required Health Insurance Coverage For Detoxification And Substance Abuse Services

Co-Chairs Scanlon and Lesser; Vice Chairs Dathan and Hartley; Ranking Member Pavalock-D'Amato and Kelly; and distinguished members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

My name is Brianna Herbest.

This epidemic needs these changes to be put into place starting today. I'm sick of getting this phone calls or seeing those post of loosing someone else in our lives due to this terrible disease. I've lost best friends, family members, a friends son I loved as a little boy and become a great man succumb to his disease.

I work in the rehabilitation field and see miracles happen daily but more needs to be put into place once they leave or to stay longer, worse punishment for these dealers. Let's help those who need help instead of this negative stigma. Together we can over come this. BCL??

I am urging you to consider these bills to ensure insurance companies are required to provide help to those seeking services and to utilize MAT as a standard form of treatment, the data suggests this is one of the most successful ways to help those recovering from addiction.